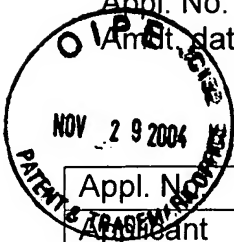


Appl. No. 10/699,180

Amendment dated November 24, 2004



Appl. No.	:	10/669,180
Applicant	:	Glenn R. Fahrni, Jr. et al.
Filed	:	September 22, 2003
Title	:	Bearing Arrangement for a Vehicle Differential
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APPENDIX TO AMENDMENT A

Proposed counts for interference with U.S. Patent 6,659,651 (Turner) annotated.
With the exception of the "counts", the material enclosed in parenthesis indicates the basis for a claim limitation in the above-designated application.

31. (count 1) A differential, comprising:
a differential carrier (housing 2) disposed about a first axis (axis x);
a differential case (carrier 8) disposed within said differential carrier;
a bearing assembly (bearings 10 & 12) disposed about said first axis between said differential carrier and said differential case, said bearing assembly allowing said differential case to rotate within said differential carrier wherein said differential carrier includes a first plurality of threads (internal threads 28) disposed on a radially inner

surface and said bearing assembly includes a cup (cup 50) having a second plurality of threads (external threads 66) disposed on a radially outer surface configured to engage said first plurality of threads.

32. (count 2) The differential of claim 31, further comprising a deformable member (locking ring 80) coupled to said cup of said bearing assembly, at least a portion of said deformable member deformed and inserted into a slot (paragraph bridging pages 11 &12) in said differential carrier upon alignment of said bearing assembly within said differential carrier.

33. (count 3) The differential of claim 32, further comprising a plurality of fasteners (studs 82) coupling said deformable member to said cup of said bearing assembly.

34. (count 4) The differential of claim 33 wherein said deformable member is disposed about said first axis and said fasteners are equally angularly spaced about said deformable member.

35. (count 5) The differential of claim 33 wherein at least one of said plurality of fasteners comprises a pin (studs 82).

36. (count 6) The differential of claim 32 wherein said deformable member is L-shaped in cross-section, having a first leg coupled to said cup of said bearing assembly

and a second leg extending perpendicular to said first leg and away from said cup of said bearing assembly (Fig. 3).

37. (count 7) A differential, comprising:

a differential carrier (housing 2) disposed about a first axis;

a differential case (carrier 8) disposed within said differential carrier;

a bearing assembly (bearings 10 & 12) disposed about said first axis and

between said differential carrier and said differential case, said bearing assembly allowing said differential case to rotate within said differential carrier; and

a deformable member (locking ring 80) coupled to a cup (cup 50) of

said bearing assembly wherein at least a portion of said deformable member is deformed and inserted into a slot (paragraph bridging pages 11 & 12) in said differential carrier upon alignment of said bearing assembly within said differential carrier.

38. (count 8) The differential of claim 37, further comprising a plurality of fasteners (studs 82) coupling said deformable member to said cup of said bearing assembly.

39. (count 9) The differential of claim 38 wherein said deformable member is disposed about said first axis and said fasteners are equally angularly spaced about said deformable member.

40. (count 10) The differential of claim 38 wherein at least one of said plurality of fasteners comprises a pin (studs 82).

41. (count 11) The differential of claim 37 wherein said deformable member is L-shaped in cross-section, having a first leg coupled to said cup of said bearing assembly and a second leg extending perpendicular to said first leg and away from said cup of said bearing assembly (Fig. 3).

42. (count 12) A method of assembling a differential, comprising the steps of:
providing a differential carrier (housing 2) and a differential case (carrier 8)

disposed within said differential carrier, said differential carrier and said differential case disposed about a first axis (axis x) and said differential carrier having a first plurality of threads (internal threads 28) on a radially inner surface;

inserting a bearing assembly between said differential carrier and said differential case, said bearing assembly including a cup (cup 50) having a second plurality of threads (external threads 66) disposed on a radially outer surface and configured to engage said first plurality of threads; and,

rotating said bearing assembly until a predetermined alignment position is reached (page 10, lines 18 & 19).

43. (count 13) The method of 42, further comprising the steps of:

affixing a deformable member (locking ring 80) to said cup of said bearing assembly;

deforming at least a portion of said deformable member after reaching said predetermined alignment position (pages 11 & 12) ; and,

inserting said at least a portion of said deformable member into a slot in said differential carrier (paragraph bridging pages 11 & 12).

44. (count 14) The method of claim 43 wherein said rotating step includes the substeps of:

inserting a tool (tool D) through an aperture in said deformable member; and,
moving said tool until said bearing assembly reaches said predetermined alignment position (page 11).